THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Audience Participation

1. Board Meetings

The board recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in its meetings. In order to permit fair and orderly expression of such comment, the board will provide a period at the end of the meeting during which visitors may make formal presentations regarding items not on the agenda. Individuals wishing to speak must sign in prior to the beginning of the meeting, and be recognized by the President. Those wishing to make presentations beyond brief comments must schedule with administration in advance.

The board will also allow individuals to express an opinion prior to board action on agenda items the board determines require or will benefit from public comment. Written and oral comment will be accepted by the board before the adoption or amendment of policies not expressly or by implication authorized by state or federal law, but which will promote the education of kindergarten through twelfth grade students in public schools or will promote the effective, efficient, or safe management and operation of the district. Individuals wishing to be heard by the board are required to sign in prior to the beginning of the meeting and must be recognized by the president. Individuals, after identifying themselves, will proceed to make comments as briefly as the subject permits, but no longer than three minutes. Any representative of a firm eligible to bid on materials or services solicited by the board shall also be entitled to express an opinion. The president may interrupt or terminate an individual's statement when it is beyond three minutes, personally directed, abusive, obscene or irrelevant. The board as a whole shall have the final decision in determining the appropriateness of all such rulings.

Individuals with disabilities who may need a modification to participate in a meeting should contact the superintendent's office no later than three days before a regular meeting and as soon as possible in advance of a special meeting, so that arrangements for the modification can be made.

2. Board Worksessions

The board will allow individuals to attend and listen to discussions of the board during its worksessions. The purpose of worksessions is to create a time when district information and issues can be discussed. The board will take no official action at worksessions.
Legal References:

- RCW 42.30.030 Meetings declared open and public
- RCW 42.30.050 Interruptions—Procedures
- 42 U.S.C. Americans with Disabilities Act 12101-12213

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